BK G.			Application Number	10/650		k Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COM- unless it displays a valid OMB control
	RANSMITTAL		Filing Date	08/29/	2003	
FORM		First Named Inventor	LIVING	STON	<u>,</u>	
(to be used fo	r all correspondence after initial	filing)	Art Unit	3612		
			Examiner Name			
Total Number of	of Pages in This Submission	14	Attorney Docket Number	0112		
		ENC	LOSURES (Check all ti	hat anniv	,)	
Amendri A Extensio Express Informati Certified Docume			Drawing(s)  Licensing-related Papers  Petition  Petition to Convert to a  Provisional Application  Power of Attorney, Revocation  Change of Correspondence Ad  Terminal Disclaimer  Request for Refund  CD, Number of CD(s)	ldress		After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):
Incomple	e to Missing Parts/ te Application tesponse to Missing Parts nder 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	TURF (	OF APPLICANT, ATTOR	NEY O	R AG	ENT

## I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Typed or printed name

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

PTO/SB/17 (10-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0032 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

FEE	TRA	N/	SMI	TT	AL
1	for F	Y	<b>200</b>	4	

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

(\$)	18	C
(4/		_

Complete if Known					
Application Number	10/650,853				
Filing Date	08/29/2003				
First Named Inventor	LIVINGSTON				
Examiner Name					
Art Unit	3612				
Attorney Docket No.	0112				

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)  FEE CALCULATION (continued)	FEE CALCULATION (continued)				
Check Credit card Money Other None 3. ADDITIONAL FEES					
Deposit Account:					
Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description	Paid				
Number 1051 130 2051 65 Surcharge - late filing fee or oath					
Deposit Account  1052 50 2052 25 Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet					
Name The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)  1053 130 Non-English specification					
Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments 1812 2,520 For filing a request for ex parte reexamination					
Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)  1804 920* Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action					
Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee 1805 1,840* Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action					
FEE CALCULATION 1251 110 2251 55 Extension for reply within first month					
1252 420 2352 240 Extension for reply within second month					
1. BASIC FILING FEE Large Entity Small Entity 1253 950 2253 475 Extension for reply within third month	]				
Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Fee Paid 1254 1 480 2254 740 Extension for reply within fourth month					
Code (\$)   Code (\$)					
1002 340 2002 170 Design filing fee 1401 330 2401 165 Notice of Appeal					
1003 530 2003 265 Plant filing fee 1402 330 2402 165 Filing a brief in support of an appeal					
1004 770 2004 385 Reissue filing fee 1403 290 2403 145 Request for oral hearing					
1005 160 2005 80 Provisional filing fee 1451 1,510 1451 1,510 Petition to institute a public use proceeding					
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$) 1452 110 2452 55 Petition to revive - unavoidable 1453 1,330 2453 665 Petition to revive - unintentional					
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE 4504 4 220 2504 665 Utilibulary for (a riceur)					
Fee from (1501 1,330 2501 665 Offility Issue fee (or reissue)  Extra Claims below Fee Paid (1502 480 2502 240 Design issue fee					
Total Claims -20** = X = 1503 640 2503 320 Plant issue fee					
Independent Claims - 3** = X = 1460 130 1460 130 Petitions to the Commissioner					
Multiple Dependent = 1807 50 1807 50 Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(g)					
Large Entity   Small Entity   1806   180   1806   180   Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt   180					
Fee Fee Fee Fee Fee Description Code (\$) Code (\$)  R021 40 Recording each patent assignment per					
1202 18 2202 9 Claims in excess of 20 property (times number of properties) 1809 770 2809 385 Filing a submission after final rejection					
1201 86 2201 43 Independent claims in excess of 3 (37 CFR 1.129(a))					
1203 290					
over original patent 1801 770 2801 385 Request for Continued Examination (RCE)					
1205 18 2205 9 ** Reissue claims in excess of 20 1802 900 1802 900 Request for expedited examination of a design application					
Other for (opposits)					
**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above steel by Basic Filing Fee Paid subtotal (3) (\$) 180					
SUBMITTED BY (Complete (if applicable))					

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)

Bruce E. Weir

Registration No. (Attornev/Agent)

Registration No. (Attornev/Agent)

Telephone 301-977-6009

Date

U-25-2223

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thomas John LIVINGSTON

Application Number: 10/650,853

Filed: 08/29/2003

For: TAILGATE STEP

Art Unit: 3612

Examiner:

Attorney Docket Number: 0112

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22312-1450

Sir:

Attached hereto is Form PTO/SB/08A listing documents believed relevant to the subject application. The applicant respectfully requests that the examiner consider this document and return an initialed copy to the undersigned.

A copy of each listed document is enclosed. Some of the documents may have markings thereon. The applicant does not intend that any significance be attached to these markings. These documents are not necessarily analogous art.

The applicant believes that this disclosure complies with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, and the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure § 609. If for some reason the examiner believes otherwise, the applicant respectfully requests that the undersigned be contacted so that any deficiencies can be remedied. This disclosure

12/02/2003 WASFAW1 00000056 10650853

Q1 FC:1806

180.00 OP

statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists.

Respectfully submitted,

Bu E. Wi

Date: 25 November 2003

Bruce E. Weir Registration No. 48,191

Bruce E. Weir Attorney at Law 12 Sparrow Valley Court Montgomery Village, MD 20886 Telephone: (301) 977-6009 Facsimile: (301) 977-6009

E-mail: bweir@bruceweir.com

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

0112

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/650,853

Filing Date 08/29/2003

First Named Inventor LIVINGSTON

Art Unit 3612

Examiner Name

Sheet

Attorney Docket Number

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
	_	Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (# known)</sup>			Figures Appear
	ļ	<sup>US-</sup> 4,639,032	01-27-1987	Barbour	
		<sup>US-</sup> 2002/0070577 A1	06-13-2002	Pool, III et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-	1		·   · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-	•		
1,000		US-			
		US-			<u> </u>
-		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
	-	US-	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
		US-			
		US-			
		US-	<del>                                     </del>		

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
Examiner Cite Initials* No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear						
	Country Code <sup>3</sup> "Number <sup>4</sup> "Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	, pp. dant of once becament							
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·										
	ļ									
	1		1							

		,	
Examiner Signature	Date		
Oignature	Considered	ľ	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.